



BOROUGH OF

DORCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1967

B O R O U G H O F D O R C H E S T E R

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
21 NORTH SQUARE,
DORCHESTER,
DORSET.

Health Department
Telephone Number Dorchester 934

Personal Telephone Number
Dorchester 1000
Extension 470

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the public health during the year 1967. The report contains information required by the Minister of Health and summarises work done during the year.

Members will note that the appointment of a full-time meat inspector has remained unfilled since January, so that it is necessary for the remaining two public health inspectors to inspect meat. A little relief has been available at weekends by hiring part-time help, but routine work such as food hygiene inspection, housing inspection and some sampling does not take place as often as it should.

I wish to thank the Committee Chairmen and Council's officers for their assistance and to acknowledge the work done in the town by health visitors and other social workers when there have been personal health problems.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

Kenneth J. Adams

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	K.J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Univ. Lond.)
Chief Public Health Inspector	C.F. ALLARD, D.P.A., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	Post Vacant
Additional Public Health Inspector	F. BRYNING, M.A.P.H.I.
Meat Inspector	C.A. BROTHWELL, M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H. M.M.I.A., Major Retired - (resigned 7th January 1967)
General Assistant (Part-time)	H.V. CULVER
Clerk Shorthand/Typist	Mrs. P.A. PLAYSTED

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	1,675
Resident Population	13,570
Number of Dwellings	4,313
Rateable Value	£710,021
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£2,840

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates compared with other areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

					<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
Dorchester Borough	...	...	...		16.2 (16.8)	9.6 (11.9)
England and Wales	...	...	...		17.2 (17.7)	11.2 (11.7)
Dorset ..	...	...	...		15.0 (18.0)	12.3 (10.9)
Dorchester Rural District	...	...			16.1 (16.5)	10.1 (10.0)

The figures in brackets are those for 1966.

In calculating Birth and Death rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

Births and Infantile Deaths

	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	96	94	9	7	206
Still Births	4	1	-	-	5
Deaths under 1 year	2	2	-	-	4
Deaths under 4 weeks	2	2	-	-	4
Deaths under 1 week	2	1	-	-	3

Infantile Mortality Rate

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants of under one year of age per thousand registered live births. There were four infantile deaths under one year of age and 206 live births in the area.

The National rate was 18.3 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Dorset rate was 12.3 deaths. Our figure is too small to work out an accurate comparative rate but the approximate figure compares quite well with the County infantile mortality rate.

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Diphtheria: No notifications of Diphtheria have been received in the Borough for twenty years. Cases continue to occur in England and Wales and six cases were notified nationally in 1967. It is necessary to maintain the high level of artificial immunity in children to prevent Diphtheria carriers returning to the community.

Whooping Cough: Nineteen cases of this disease were notified and many more would have occurred but for the immunisation campaign. Some children get a modified form of the disease when infected many months after vaccination. It is important that babies under the age of two years should be protected as the disease is more serious in the very young.

Tetanus: This infection occurs rarely and is not notifiable. I am unaware if cases occurred in 1967. One of the reasons prompting the tetanus vaccination campaign is the difficulty in administering anti-tetanus serum in an emergency. Severe allergic reactions can occur, and if it is being given on a second occasion its protective power does not last so long. If an adult or child has ever received anti-tetanus serum after an injury it is important that a course of active protection with anti-tetanus toxoid is received.

Poliomyelitis: No cases of this disease have been notified for twelve years but nineteen cases occurred in England and Wales. This again is directly due to the use of oral poliomyelitis vaccine. It is already becoming difficult to think back a decade to the time when a case of poliomyelitis in a town caused so much grief and worry to all parents.

Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics

Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Tetanus	
Primary course	Boosting dose	Primary course	Boosting dose	Primary course	Boosting dose	Primary course	Boosting dose
186	225	172	147	187	306	213	306

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the above figures.

In judging the state of immunity it must be borne in mind that the district experiences about 200 births per year. Thus well over 75% of children have been immunised. Cause for concern about the presence of Diphtheria carriers arises when the figures drop below 70%.

Scarlet Fever: One case was notified. This disease is now much less severe than earlier in the Century. It can be tackled fairly easily by modern antibiotics and I suspect that the position has now been reached when it occasionally occurs and remains unrecognised by parents.

Measles: One hundred and eighty-three cases of this disease were notified and I am hoping that this is the last occasion that I shall be in a position to report to you such an occurrence. A satisfactory "one shot" attenuated live measles vaccine has now been marketed and early in 1968 we were informed that an anti-measles campaign would start in the Spring.

Measles is a very lowering disease. It may cause encephalitis, is responsible for paving the way to many dangerous secondary infections by other organisms, and bring about a small number of deaths each year nationally.

Scabies: Several cases of scabies occurred in the district in 1966, and early in 1967 articles appeared in the medical press suggesting that there was an increase in the disease nationally. The Council agreed to make the disease notifiable under powers given in Section 147 of the Public Health Act 1936, and formal arrangements for this commenced on 29th August.

Scabies requires very careful treatment by the patient and unless detailed explanation of this is given the disease can well progress to a chronic state. Notification also gives me the opportunity to trace back the infection from the original carrier.

Food Poisoning: Nineteen cases in all were notified. In one isolated case no suspicious organisms were found; in another *Salmonella typhimurium* was grown but the cause of the infection was not found.

Seventeen cases were notified in an outbreak associated with a school meal when the organism *Clostridium welchii* was isolated. Many more mild clinical cases occurred than were notified. The *Clostridium welchii* was a heat resistant strain but the error in technique which caused its presence on the food was never finally traced. It is an organism which lives in the bowel of man and of some domestic animals so the flesh of an animal gutted, for example, in an unhygienic manner could well be contaminated with these organisms. Every assistance was given by kitchen staff and organisers, but it was only possible to give general advice upon the preparation and cooling of meats to prevent a recurrence, rather than advice about a particular dish as I would have wished.

Food poisoning by *Clostridium welchii* is common and in 1966 it formed 33% of all general outbreaks in England and Wales. Toxins formed by these bacteria cause the symptoms, and the toxin is probably made whilst the bacteria multiply on meat which is cooling slowly. There are thus two errors of technique which contribute to such an outbreak. The first is to allow the meat to become contaminated and this may take place before it arrives in the kitchen. This is very important because resistant organisms can withstand 1 to 3 hours heating at 100° C. The second is not to secure as rapid cooling as possible once cooking has taken place.

Smallpox: In July I was called to see a pox rash in an Indian boy who had left Delhi the previous month. He had been vaccinated in infancy and revaccinated on departure from India but there was no evidence of this on his arm. A few poxes were present but these were not typical of smallpox. In view of the history I called in the Consulting Smallpox Physician who did not feel the boy was suffering from smallpox but advised admission to West Haven Fever Hospital.

International Vaccination Certificates: These certificates for international travel give evidence of vaccination against smallpox or cholera. A Local authority stamp certifies that the signature of the issuing doctor is that of a registered medical practitioner known to me. The number of certificates authenticated varies depending upon the amount of smallpox prevalent in other countries as well as our own. In 1967, 271 certificates were authenticated. In 1966, a year when minor smallpox was about in England and Wales the number of certificates dealt with was 439.

Head Infestation:

Infestation is not notifiable to me as district medical officer but the Principal School Medical Officer kindly makes available his records. The figures set out below refer to the combined school population of Dorchester Borough and Rural District.

	1964	1965	1966	1967
Number of infested heads with vermin or egg cases present.	5	59	29	4

It is necessary for parents to continue to be vigilant to combat this infestation which spreads rapidly if no thought is given to why a particular child is scratching.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Dorchester Public Health Laboratory under the directorship of Dr. G.H. Tee continues to give excellent service. Bacteriological advice on the spot is at times most welcome.

CAUSES OF DEATH

					<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
INFECTIOUS DISEASE:	Influenza ...	...	...	-	-	-
	Tuberculosis	...	...	-	-	-
	Other ...	...	...	-	-	-
RESPIRATORY DISEASE:	Pneumonia ...	...	...	13	19	
	Bronchitis ..	...	...	4	1	
	Other ...	...	...	-	-
HEART AND CIRCULATION:	Coronary disease ...	...	...	16	7	
	Cerebral haemorrhage	...	...	10	16	
	Hypertension	...	...	-	2	
	Other ...	...	...	9	25	
CANCER:	Stomach ...	...	...	3	2	
	Breast ...	...	...	-	4	
	Lung and Bronchus ..	...	...	7	1	
	Uterus ...	...	...	-	1	
	Leukaemia ...	...	...	-	1	
	Other ...	...	...	8	6	
DIABETES: ...	...	...	...	-	1	
GASTRIC OR DUODENAL ULCER: ...	...	...	...	1	1	
GASTRITIS, ENTERITIS AND DIARRHOEA:	...	...	...	1	-	
NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS: ...	...	...	...	1	-	
HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE: ...	...	...	...	-	-
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS: ...	...	...	...	3	2	
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS: ...	...	...	...	1	1	
OTHER ACCIDENTS: ...	...	...	...	-	3	
SUICIDE: ...	...	...	...	2	1	
OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED CAUSES:	...	...	...	3	4	
				<hr/>		
				TOTAL	82	98
				<hr/>		

CAUSES OF DEATH

A list of the numbers dying from common diseases is meaningless unless compared with national figures. The latest available are those for 1966 which, although referring to deaths in a previous year, demonstrate that the trends of causes of death in the Borough, except perhaps for bronchitis, are similar to those in England and Wales.

Deaths from various causes England and Wales 1966

					<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Coronary Disease ...	...	...	...	...	69,547	45,219
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	...	...	...	...	31,743	47,081
Cancer - Lung ...	...	...	...	...	22,610	4,415
Bronchitis ..	...	...	...	...	23,121	8,741
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	16,439	19,603
Cancer - Breast ...	...	...	...	...	900	9,822
Cancer - Stomach ...	...	...	...	...	7,520	5,653
All other accidents ...	...	...	...	...	6,734	5,879
Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	...	...	...	5,293	2,161
Cancer - Womb ...	...	...	...	...	-	3,950
Hypertension ...	...	...	...	...	3,280	4,935
Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	2,823	2,171

Cervical Cancer

About 2,500 women die annually in England and Wales from cancer of the neck of the womb - cervical cancer. Three per cent of deaths in women under the age of 50 years are caused by the disease. In recent years it has been found that scrapings from the cervix examined under the microscope by trained technicians can give some idea of the health of the cells in that area of the body. A service to do this in Dorset was started in 1965 and clinics now run in several of the major centres. The Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health for 1967 sets out the results of this work for the year.

	<u>County Area</u>	<u>South Dorset Area</u>
Number of patients seen	1,678	860
Number of patients at stage A	3	7
Number of patients at stage B	1	2
Number referred to Family Doctor for other reasons.	113	138

There are two stages in the early development of a cervical cancer which are perhaps best set out as follows:

Stage A: Cancerous change in living cells. No symptoms.
Duration of stage 4 to 5 years.

Stage B: Cancerous cells invading other tissue. No symptoms.
Duration of stage 3 years.

The clinic in Dorchester is held at the Health Centre on the first and third Fridays in each month from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. The service is entirely free, patients have the opportunity to be instructed in self examination of the breasts if they wish.

WATER SUPPLIES

The town water supply is quite adequate and wholesome. The Public Health Department samples drinking water in the distribution system on a fortnightly basis, and the Water Engineer samples water at source twice weekly. Samples for bacteriological analysis have been regularly taken from Eagle Lodge, the Rising Main at the Waterworks Well and from the High Level and Low Level Reservoirs weekly throughout the year. The results of two samples for chemical analysis are set out on page 13.

Water Sampling: One of the duties imposed upon a sanitary authority by the Public Health Act is that of taking "from time to time such steps as may be necessary for ascertaining the sufficiency and wholesomeness of the water supplies within their district". To fulfil this duty bacteriological examinations are done twice weekly as referred to above, chemical analyses are arranged annually, and occasionally other matters arise either through complaints or due to investigations done by research workers. I ought to make the point here, that this duty to ascertain the wholesomeness of drinking water will continue whether the Council own their water undertaking or whether it is placed eventually in the hands of others.

Our water sources are usually satisfactory, Eagle Lodge invariably so, but there is occasional pollution with a few coliform organisms at the Water Works Well depending upon the height of the water table. Chlorination almost invariably kills these organisms such that samples from the reservoirs are sterile.

Lead in Drinking Water: In November work was published by the Medical Research Council Social Medicine Unit concerning the concentration of lead in drinking water. Some waters were more plumbo solvent than had formerly been thought, and we were advised by the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health that the amount of lead in the town drinking water should be estimated. Samples of drinking water which had lain overnight in lead service pipes were sent for analysis and the results are set out on the following page.

Lead Concentration
in parts per million

(a) Waterworks Well ...	...	Nil
(b) Icen Way ...	...	Nil
(c) Acland Road ...	...	0.04
(d) Bridport Road ...	... Less than	0.01

Recommended maximum standards by
World Health Organisation

International Standards for Drinking Water -	0.05
European Standards for Drinking Water (after 16 hours contact with lead pipes)	0.3

In the case of specimens (a) and (b) the analyst in the Laboratory then brought the water into contact with metallic lead for 24 hours and after further analysis found concentrations of 0.25 p.p.m. and 0.5 p.p.m. lead respectively.

The conclusions we must come to are that our water is mildly plumbo-solvent, that connection of properties with new lead service pipes is not recommended, and that water from those properties already connected by lead service pipes is not likely to cause a health hazard. The probable reason for this in older lead pipe is that a layer of carbonate is deposited on the internal lining of the pipe which precludes any further aggression of the metallic lead by the drinking water.

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES OF WATER
CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

		<u>Bridport Road</u>	<u>Icen Way</u>
Appearance - Clear		Taste and odour - normal	
Colour - Colourless	pH Value -	7.0	7.0
Free chlorine		0.02	Nil
Total suspended matter		Nil	Nil
Total soluble matter		360	360
Temporary Hardness		125	180
Permanent Hardness		200	150
Total Hardness		325	330
Chlorides as Chlorine		20	16
Nitrogen in Nitrates		1.6	0.2
Nitrogen in Nitrites		0.01	0.01
Saline Ammonia	Less than	0.005	Less than 0.005
Albuminoid Ammonia	Less than	0.005	Less than 0.005
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate at 98°F. 4 hours		0.2	0.2
B.O.D. 5 days		-	-
Impurity Figure		-	-
% Oxygen Saturation		-	-
Poisonous Metals Special Examination:			
	Lead on receipt	Nil	Nil
	Standing 24 hours in contact with lead	0.25	0.5
Date sample was received		13.12.67	20.11.67

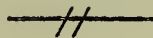
Remarks: On receipt these samples were quite suitable for use, but on standing in contact with lead, they do take up a small quantity of lead and are hence slightly plumbo solvent.

Public Analyst

SEWERAGE

Sewage is treated at Louds Mill works which was modernised in 1962. The new installation was designed for a capacity of 14,400 persons, (our present population is 13,570). Sludge was dried originally on fourteen beds but work was completed during the year increasing this capacity by a further eight beds. Infiltration of ground water into the sewerage system is also troublesome and investigation of the sources of the excess water continues.

Despite these difficulties the biochemical oxygen demand of the effluent before discharge into the River Frome is usually satisfactory and comes within the 20 parts per million limit acceptable to the River Board.



In the sections dealing with water and sewerage it gives me pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. D.J.H. Strange, Borough Surveyor.

Telephone (Office):
Dorchester 934.

Public Health Inspectors' Office,
North Square,
DORCHESTER.

July, 1968.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Annual Report for 1967.

I present for your consideration the following report on our work
in 1967.

The vacancy which occurred in July, 1966, when the first Additional Public Health Inspector resigned, was unsuccessfully advertised on a number of occasions. The post of Authorised Meat Inspector which became vacant in January, 1967, also remained unfilled. It was inevitable that as a result the amount of routine work carried out was reduced. Further reference is made to this matter later in the report.

I am grateful to the members of the Committee for their continued support and to the Chief Officers and other colleagues for their help and advice during the year.

B. J. Ainslie

Chief Public Health Inspector.

1. INSPECTIONS - 1967.

Under the Housing Acts:

Inspection of dwelling houses	31	
Re-inspection of dwelling-houses	135	
Visits re overcrowding	23	
Unclassified	15	204

Under the Food and Drugs Acts:

Inspections and visits re unsound food	95	
Inspection of food premises (including visits for sampling only)	368	
Visits re notified or suspected cases of food poisoning	35	
Visits to slaughterhouses	898	
Visits to dairies	5	
Unclassified	3	1,404

Under Public Health Acts:

Inspection and/or testing of sewers/drains (including soil and ventilating pipes)	331	
Inspection of closets and cesspools	3	
Inspection of filthy or verminous premises	10	
Inspection of public conveniences	4	
Inspection for detection and abatement of statutory nuisances	118	
Inspection and sampling of water supplies	91	
Enquiries and visits re infectious diseases	5	
Inspection of caravan sites	8	
Unclassified	1	571

Under the Factories Acts:

Inspection of factories	7	
Visits to outworkers	1	8

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act: (excluding visits by the rodent operative)

13	13
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Under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:

General Inspections	51	
Other visits	56	107

Under the Shops Act, 1950:

Inspections	1	1
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Under the Petroleum Acts:

22	22
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Miscellaneous:

6	6
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2,356

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The twenty-seventh of the year
The twenty-eighth of the year
The twenty-ninth of the year
The thirtieth of the year
The thirty-first of the year

2. COMPLAINTS - 1967.

Disrepair of houses	17
Overcrowding or other inadequate housing conditions	1
Unsound food or unsatisfactory conditions in food premises	29
Defective and/or choked drains, sewers, closets, cesspools, etc.	8
Verminous and/or filthy premises	40
Offensive accumulations or deposits	10
Other public health nuisances	11
Rats and mice	84
Unclassified	3
	<hr/>
	203
	<hr/>

3. NOTICES - 1967.

	<u>Informal Notices</u>		<u>Formal Notices</u>	
	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied</u>	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied</u>
		with		with
Under Public Health Acts	20	18	-	-
Under Housing Acts	1	6	-	-
Under Food and Drugs Acts	51	42	-	-
Under Factories Acts	1	3	1	1
Under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	-	1	-	-
Under Petroleum Acts	1	4	-	-
Under Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	6	5	-	-
Under Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	31	26	-	-
Under Shops Act	-	1	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	111	106	1	1
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4. HOUSING.

Of the two-hundred and twenty-eight properties scheduled in 1955 for clearance or demolition thirty were occupied at the end of 1967. There were an estimated thirty-nine other houses unfit at the end of the year to be dealt with in future programmes.

Summary of Progress - 1967.

Number of clearance areas declared during the year	Nil
Number of houses demolished after statutory action or voluntarily	18
Number of houses closed after statutory action or voluntarily	11
Number of undertakings not to re-let cancelled after completion of work	1
Number of families rehoused from unfit houses	23
Number of persons rehoused from unfit houses	51

The following individually unfit houses were dealt with:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
25 Millers Close	Demolition Order made 31.1.67	Vacant before official action.
13 Holloway Road	Undertaking not to re-let accepted 31.1.67	6 - Rehoused by Council 8.5.67.
30 Princes Street	Closing Order made 25.4.67	Not yet rehoused.
31 Princes Street	Closing Order made 25.4.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 16.10.67.
11 Holloway Road	Undertaking not to re-let accepted 18.7.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 19.6.67.
12 Holloway Road	Undertaking not to re-let accepted 18.7.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 19.6.67.
17 Holloway Road	Undertaking not to re-let accepted 18.7.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 2.10.67.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Persons Displaced</u>
23 The Grove	Closing Order made 26.9.67	1 - Rehoused by Council 16.1.67.
24 The Grove	Closing Order made 26.9.67	1 - Rehoused by Council 26.6.67.
25 The Grove	Closing Order made 26.9.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 24.4.67.
12 Princes Street	Voluntarily closed 6.11.67	4 - Rehoused by Council 6.11.67.
23 Princes Street	Closing Order made 19.12.67	2 - Rehoused by Council 9.10.67.

Housing Repairs and Improvements.

Repairs to housing defects were completed at four houses.

Twenty-one applications for Standard Grants were received, twenty of which were approved. Seventeen applications were from owner occupiers, including one refused, and four in respect of tenanted houses. During the year eighteen houses were improved (thirteen owner occupied and five tenanted houses).

The amenities provided were as follows:-

(a)	Fixed Bath	18
(b)	Shower	Nil
(c)	Wash hand basin	18
(d)	Hot water supply (to any fittings)	18
(e)	W.C. within the dwelling	18
(f)	Food store	16

No applications were received for Discretionary Grants.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications for a certificate of disrepair were received during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

5. FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The records of the Department show the following information regarding premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960:

	Number of premises			
	Total	Fitted to comply with Reg.16	To which Reg.19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg.19
Manufacturers and processors	5	5	3	3
Wholesalers	8	8	4	4
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
Wholesale premises	15	15	9	9
Butchers	10	10	10	10
Fishmongers	5	5	5	5
Flour confectioners	6	6	6	6
Grocers, provision merchants and general shops	37	37	37	37
Fruiterers and greengrocers	6	6	6	6
Sugar confectioners	16	16	0	0
Off licences	3	3	0	0
Retail premises	83	83	64	64
Hotels	13	13	13	13
Restaurants and cafes	21	20	21	21
Works canteens	5	5	5	5
School canteens	11	11	11	11
Residential catering establishments	7	7	7	7
Public houses	18	18	18	18
Licensed clubs	10	10	10	10
Occassional catering premises	19	19	19	19
Catering premises	104	103	104	104
TOTALS	202	201	177	177

In addition to the above premises the following are subject to inspection by the public health inspectors under various regulations:-

Slaughterhouses	2
Milk distributors	5
Bread distributors	4
Hospitals	3
Street and market stalls	30
House to house traders	2
<u>Total 46</u>	

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

There are no egg pasteurising plants in the district.

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and of inspections made (including visits for sampling) is as follows:-

	<u>Number</u> <u>registered</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>of inspections</u>
For the sale, or manufacture, or storage of ice-cream	52	66
For the preparation or manu- facture of meat products or preserved foods.	5	-

The number of premises registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, is:-

Distributors with premises within the Borough	3	} Total 36
Distributors trading from outside the Borough	2	
Retail shops selling bottled milk only	31	

Five inspections were made at these premises.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, the work of licensing dealers in designated milks (pasteurised, sterilised and untreated) is the responsibility of the Dorset County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority.

The total number of visits to food premises for food hygiene and sampling was three-hundred and sixty-eight. About thirty traders sell food from stalls in the streets and in Dorchester Market. One-hundred and eighty-one inspections of the stalls were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Proceedings were authorised to be taken against the occupier of a fish and chip restaurant for alleged offences under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. Subsequently the premises were sold and the purchasers closed the business pending alterations. The decision to prosecute was therefore not proceeded with.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

These Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1967, with the object of improving conditions in the handling of food at market and street stalls. For the benefit of food traders in the Wednesday Market at the Fairfield the Council provided a sink, wash basin and hot water supply in one of the ancillary buildings. Early in February a meeting was held to which the food stall holders who regularly stand in Cornhill and South Street were invited. At this meeting the Regulations were explained and each trader given an explanatory leaflet. Considerable comment occurred in the town with regard to the design of the stalls, in particular in relation to the Regulations requiring screening. The Council held a second meeting in September to discuss with the stall holders the possibility of the adoption of a standard design for stalls but it was not possible to make progress in this matter. The opportunity was taken to refer again to the requirements of the new Regulations and to issue a warning that the Council would have to take firm action if contraventions occurred. The Regulations also apply to food delivery vehicles and it will be necessary to check in detail vehicles delivering food within the Borough.

Ice-Cream. Seventy-four samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results of which were:-

	<u>Bulk</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>	<u>Pre-packed</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>
Provisional Grade 1	37	2
Provisional Grade 2	19	-
Provisional Grade 3	12	-
Provisional Grade 4	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>
	72	2

These samples were taken from seven sources including two sources of soft ice-cream. The national manufacturers of ice-cream maintain a very high standard of pre-packed article and only two samples of such ice-cream were taken. Forty-eight samples were taken from bulk supplies at restaurants and hotels enabling a check to be made on the efficiency of the storage of the product. Samples were taken with a sterile spatula and also with the servers in use to test the efficiency of the cleansing of the servers. Twenty-four samples were taken from mobile ice-cream vehicles.

There is no legal standard for the cleanliness of ice-cream and the results of samples are judged on the following provisional standard:-

Over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent. into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent. into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

Samples taken from bulk ice-cream from one manufacturer's vehicles failed to comply with the above standard. If a source of ice-cream fails to comply with the provisional standard we are dependent upon the goodwill and co-operation of the manufacturer. In this case the manufacturer was informed and also the Chief Public Health Inspector of the District where the factory is situated. We were informed that improvements to the factory were to be put in hand.

Food Complaints. Twenty-nine complaints of unsatisfactory food or conditions in food premises were received and included the following:-

Foreign objects in foods	4	
Mouldy foods (butter 1, crumpets 1)	2	
Unsound foods (apples 1, canned and prepared meats 3, canned foods (general) 1, bread roll 1, pre-packed salads 1, fish 4, chickens 2)	13	
Dirty milk bottles	2	
Unsatisfactory food premises	8	29

Unsound Food. The quantities of food found to be unsound and voluntarily surrendered to the Department for disposal are shown in the following table. The food is surrendered at the office of the inspectors and disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Canned or other pre-packed foods:-

451 lbs. Meat and fish
908 lbs. Fruit
514 lbs. Vegetables
1,838 lbs. Frozen foods
716 lbs. Miscellaneous

Other foods:-

441 lbs. Meat (including bacon)
4 lbs. Cereals
300 lbs. Tomatoes
3 lbs. Prepared meats
80 lbs. Plums

TOTAL WEIGHT: 5,255 lbs.

POULTRY INSPECTION.

- (i) Number of poultry processing premises.

There is one poultry processing premises in the Borough which operates up to four evenings per week.

- (ii) Number of visits.

Regular inspections are not made but information is received of the number of poultry processed and of the numbers rejected.

- (iii) Total number of birds processed.

57,838 birds were processed in 1967.

- (iv) Types of birds processed.

Turkeys, hens, broilers, chickens and capons were processed.

- (v) Percentage of birds rejected.

Approximately 0.5 per cent of the birds, or one in two hundred were rejected as unfit for human consumption.

- (vi) Weight of poultry condemned.

Approximately 800 lbs.

- (vii) Comment.

Inspection problems arise because the premises are operated intermittently in the evenings. Many of the birds are bred by the proprietor and all the others are seen alive by him before purchase. It is at this stage on the farm that the culling of any suspect birds takes place.

The Department's responsibilities are to ensure (a) if regular inspection of the birds by a public health inspector is not possible that the system of rejection by the proprietor is working effectively and (b) inspection of the premises under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

6. MEAT INSPECTION.

Two premises within the Borough continued in use as private slaughterhouses. The Council's full time Meat Inspector resigned in January, 1967, and as there was already a vacancy for a Public Health Inspector advertisements were issued to fill the latter post first. It was intended to replace the full time Meat Inspector with Public Health Inspectors operating on a rota system. However the vacancy of Public Health Inspector was not filled and the existing staff continued to maintain the meat inspection service, supplemented by outside assistance.

The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966, which gave the local authority for the first time powers to determine hours of slaughter proved helpful in reaching informal agreements with the proprietors of the two slaughterhouses on slaughtering hours. Further discussions took place but it was not possible to eliminate Sunday slaughtering at one of the slaughterhouses. Discussions are to continue in the hope of an improvement in 1968.

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Number of animals slaughtered	40,370	38,800
Number of animals inspected	40,370	38,800
Number of whole carcasses rejected	220	132
Approximate weight of meat and offals rejected (tons)		
(a) for tuberculosis	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
(b) for other conditions	24	20

The principal causes for the rejection of carcasses as unfit for human consumption, classified in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, are shown on page twenty-seven.

Cysticercus Bovis.

Cysticercus bovis is the cystic form of human taeniasis (tape-worm in man) and cattle inspected were subject to routine examination of the head, tongue and heart. One case of cysticercus bovis was found, the location of the cysts being the masseter muscles of the head. The carcass was submitted to cold storage and kept at the prescribed temperature before release for consumption.

Carcases and Offals Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in part

	Cattle ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,102	1,242	14,212	11,016	10,228
Number Inspected	2,102	1,242	14,212	11,016	10,228
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	3	14	39	28	48
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	642	687	771	1,884	2,969
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	30.69	56.44	5.70	17.36	29.50
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	52
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.51
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF REJECTION - 1967.

	Cattle ex-cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Bruising (Extensive and Severe)	-	-	1	2	1	4
Emaciation (Pathological)	1	5	-	3	4	13
Fever	-	-	22	4	22	48
Jaundice	-	-	2	-	-	2
Abnormal Odour	-	-	-	1	-	1
Oedema (Generalised)	1	6	2	9	1	19
Peritonitis (Acute, Diffuse, Septic)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia (Acute Septic)	-	-	2	-	-	2
Pyæmia (Including Joint-Ill)	-	-	9	6	15	30
Septicaemia or Texaemia	-	1	1	1	2	5
Swine Erysipelas (Acute)	-	-	-	-	3	3
Tumours (Malignant with Secondary Growths)	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tumours (Multiple)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other Causes	1	1	-	-	-	2
TOTAL 1967	3	14	39	28	48	132

Laboratory facilities.

The facilities of the Public Health Laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. G. H. Tee, are available for the examination of specimens from carcasses. Eighteen specimens from five carcasses were submitted in 1967.

I should like to record my thanks to Dr. Tee for his help, which is always readily given on meat inspection and other public health problems.

7. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

Seventeen slaughtermen employed at the local slaughterhouses were licensed to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep, pigs and goats with a mechanically operated instrument of the captive bolt pistol type or an electrically operated instrument (electrolethaler). No licences to slaughter horses within the Borough have been issued.

8. WATER SAMPLES.

Routine samples are taken from distribution points in addition to samples of the sources and from the reservoirs taken by the Water Engineer. Seventy-eight samples of the mains supply taken by the public health inspectors were satisfactory. These were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and tested in the office for residual chlorine. Samples from three distribution points were reported upon as unsatisfactory. Immediately this was known repeat samples were taken and were reported as satisfactory, indicating that the pollution was of local origin. Of the samples taken by the Water Engineer all except two were satisfactory. The two unsatisfactory samples showed the lowest possible count of bacteria and repeat samples were satisfactory. Ten samples taken from the source before chlorination showed a low bacterial count.

Further complaints of sediment and iron scale in the water supply were received from residents of a housing estate in the south of the town. The sediment was considered to be of calcium carbonate and iron which in the analyst's opinion are not harmful. Calcium carbonate (lime) is the principal reason for the hardness of the water and also causes precipitation of the traces of iron. In each case the Water Engineer undertook flushing and cleansing of the mains to reduce the deposit.

Seven houses (population 8) and fifty-two caravans (population one hundred and four) are served by external standpipes. In all other dwelling houses the supply is taken indoors.

9. DRAINAGE.

Two hundred and fifty-two visits were made to inspect and test new drains. Seventy-nine visits were made to inspect and test old drains.

Only a small number of premises are not connected to the main sewerage system, less than forty being served by cesspool or septic tank.

10. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Six notices were received of proposals to install a new furnace to which the Clean Air Act, 1956, applies.

11. FACTORIES, SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The table below shows the number of factories on the Council's register.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 - PART 1.

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities.	91	7	2	-
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	102	7	2	-

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	4	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 - PART VIII.

(OUTWORK)

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 113 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Nets other than wire nets	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other types of outwork	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Routine inspections under the above Act continued in 1967 and fifty-one registered premises received a general inspection. Thirty-one written notices were served regarding conditions found and by the end of the year twenty-six of these notices had been complied with.

The register showed the following details at the end of the year:-

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of persons employed</u>
Offices	71	693
Retail Shops	129	876
Wholesale shops, warehouses	9	74
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	17	121
Fuel storage depots	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	226	1,764

Three notifications were received of accidents to persons employed in retail shops.

Proceedings were authorised to be taken against the occupier of a catering establishment for alleged offences against the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. Before further steps were taken the premises were sold and vacated and the purchasers closed the business pending alterations. No further action was therefore taken with regard to the alleged offences.

12. CARAVANS.

One residential site for thirty caravans and two individual residential sites were licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act. The licence conditions were based on the model standards prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

It was necessary to serve six written notices regarding the unsatisfactory conditions found upon inspection of the residential site for thirty caravans and inspectors made eight visits to the site.

The Council operates a site for twenty residential caravans and ten touring caravans.

13. RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control service was continued on the lines of the scheme approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. No charge is made for the destruction by the Council of rats and mice except in the case of business premises. A summary of work undertaken is shown in the table below. Test baiting and maintenance treatments of the sewers were undertaken as usual.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district	5,164	23
2. a Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	168	-
b Number infested by (i) rats (ii) mice	114 18	- -
3. a Total number of properties inspected for rats and/ or mice for reasons other than notification	81	-
b Number infested by (i) rats (ii) mice	26 2	- -

14. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Thirty-six premises infested with pests were dealt with. Most of the premises were disinfested by the Department but in a small number of instances advice only was given. In addition regular treatment of one of the slaughterhouses was undertaken to prevent fly infestation. The Council continued to operate a number of traps for pigeons.

15. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Under the above Act five premises in which upholstery is undertaken are registered by the Council. Premises within the Borough are not used for the manufacture or storage of rag flock. No visits of inspection or sampling under the Act were made during the year.

16. SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964.

Five dealers in old metals are registered by the Council under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

17. PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

At the beginning of the year fifty-seven licences were renewed in respect of existing petroleum installations.

Of twenty-two visits made under the Petroleum Acts, ten were to licensed installations and twelve to new or proposed installations.

18. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two shops were licensed by the Council under the above Act for the sale of pet animals.

